

Dear Parents and Carers,

My letter to-day is the last one for this half term. Where have 8 weeks gone? Pupils have settled well into their new routines and classes. There have been opportunities for pupils in KS4 and 5 to explore career aspirations during a visit to a careers fair at Northwich Brio Leisure Center. The feedback from pupils was really positive after meeting many local and national employers. Thank you Jodie (our Careers Advisor) for organising this opportunity. My thanks also to Kate for running another successful 'Family Fun Night' at school on 17th October. Tickets were sold out and a good time had by all.

Attendance remains a high priority for Government and as I have shared with you before schools have been asked to adopt a new Attendance Policy. Whilst I have shared details of this with you, I continue to receive requests for holidays during term time. The policy, which school must follow is very clear- requests for holidays, however they are explained, are unable to be authorised. Where a holiday or series of holidays are taken and exceed 5 school days a Fixed Penalty Notice will be issued. The fine is £160 per parent, reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

School now reports on absence in school on a weekly basis. The attendance target for all pupils is 94%, if attendance falls below 90% school will offer support to parents, carers and pupils in order to improve attendance. Letters may be sent to you to share with you schools concerns and an offer to work together to improve attendance. School would much rather offer this support than issue fines for poor or non-attendance. I very much value close working with families where attendance is an issue. Close working has made a big difference to attendance and therefore outcomes from pupils.

You are able to monitor your child's attendance by accessing the school Arbor website.



Parent Carer Forum are a voluntary group of Parents & Carers in Cheshire West & Chester who have children / young people with special education needs and / or disability. Their main purpose and aims are to:

Voice

Be the voice of as many parents/carers as possible.

Partnership

Work in partnership with providers of Education, Health Care and Social Care services to influence decisions about gaps in services.

Advice

Provide advice and information links to Professionals and Voluntary Organisations.

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Headteacher: Mr M. McCann

Improve

Co-produce improvements to Services so that all children and young people in the Borough with SEND are given the chance to achieve the best possible outcomes.

Regular news letters are published to keep parents and carers up to date with what is happening in Cheshire West and Chester. Please find a link below to the October newsletter.

<https://mailchi.mp/83159362f11e/pcf-news-and-events-october-2024-17455921>

Harvest Festival

Thank you to Mr Duncalf, our Humanities / R.E. coordinator, for organising and delivering our Harvest assembly this year. School is grateful for the donations made by families, which were presented to local food banks in order to help support vulnerable members of our community.

Remembrance Day

Mr Duncalf is talking to The Royal British Legion as part of school's act of Remembrance this November. Poppies will be available to purchase in support of The Royal British Legion and the work they do. If pupils wish to purchase a poppy, they can do so by bringing in a donation in an envelope with their *name* and 'Royal British Legion' written on it.

The Royal British Legion is at the heart of a national network that supports our Armed Forces community.

Formed in 1921, The RBL is the country's largest Armed Forces charity, with 180,000 members, 110,000 volunteers and a network of partners and charities that help to give support wherever and whenever it's needed.

Tempest Photography, will be in school on Monday 11th November to take photographs of pupils across school. If you do not wish your child to have their photograph taken, please advise your child's class teacher.

Online Safety

A running theme throughout the year for pupils is online safety. School offers regular advice and guidance on how to keep your child safe when online via new alerts. The latest alert is attached with this letter.

Hello from Residential

What a wonderful term everyone has had! We were lucky to welcome 7 new starters into residential in September, they have all been amazing, and have loved their residential stays.

This week there has been lots of fun activities taking place to celebrate the end of this 8-week term. These have included, movie nights, shopping and a buffet tea.

This week you will all receive the timetable for next half term, and I am sure you will agree, that once again it is packed full of lots of different exciting activities.

Have a lovely break!

Charlene and the Residential Team

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School closes for the Autumn break to-day and will re-open for pupils on **Monday 4th November**.

Please note that **Friday 8th November** is a whole school training day. **School will be closed for pupils.** Pupils who would normally access residential provision on Thursday will not be able to. The focus for the training is Literacy.

Thank you for your ongoing support, it makes a real difference for positive outcomes for pupils.

Have an enjoyable and safe week next week.

Yours faithfully,

Mr McCann
Head Teacher



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